

Application: Michigan Health Improvement Alliance Clean Slate Collaborative

Michigan Health Improvement Alliance
Administration of Justice Grant Program

Summary

ID: AOJ2025--0000000078

Last submitted: Oct 10 2025 06:04 PM (EDT)

Eligibility Criteria

Completed - Oct 10 2025

Form for "Eligibility Criteria"

Criteria

For this source of funding, grant proposals that include the following are favored.

You must check all that apply to this funding request.

Responses Selected:

Benefit Michigan residents

Demonstrate community support, collaboration, partnerships, and links with other entities doing similar work

Avoid duplication of service

Have potential for applicability or replication in other parts of the state

Include a meaningful evaluation component

Show a history of quality service and fiscal responsibility

For this source of funding, grants are not made for the following.

Please check any item(s) below which applies to this funding request (check all that apply).

No Responses Selected

Administration of Justice Grant Application

Completed - Oct 10 2025

Administration of Justice Grant Application

Organizational Overview

1. Describe how you learned of this grant opportunity:

Several months ago, the Michigan Health Improvement Alliance (MiHIA) met with the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN) to learn more about their work and explore opportunities for collaboration. Through these discussions, both organizations agreed that MiHIA could play a key role in deepening GLEN's impact in the Great Lakes Bay Region, especially given GLEN's success in helping individuals expunge criminal records—a need intervention identified to meet one of the priorities in the region's strategic plan. When GLEN learned about this grant opportunity, they encouraged MiHIA to apply, recognizing how it could support their shared goals.

2. If you are not an annual grantee of the Michigan State Bar Foundation, please briefly describe your organization's mission:

MiHIA is a multi-sector collaborative committed to advancing health outcomes and economic vitality across central and eastern Michigan. Its mission is to promote equitable, data-informed, and community-driven solutions that deliver lasting impact. Operating under a collective impact framework, MiHIA convenes diverse stakeholders around shared goals, measurable outcomes, and coordinated strategies to address complex health challenges that no single entity can tackle alone. More than a health organization, MiHIA serves as a regional catalyst for both health and economic prosperity—dedicated to building a healthier, more equitable future for Michigan residents.

3. If you are not an annual grantee of the Michigan State Bar Foundation, please briefly describe your organization's history:

MiHIA was founded in 2007 to unite regional partners in improving health and economic outcomes across central and eastern Michigan. It has since evolved into a backbone organization that addresses persistent health challenges and disparities across Michigan's Great Lakes Bay Region. The organization has served as a fiscal backbone for several dozens of grants throughout the years and typically manages between \$1 million to \$1.5 million grants annually.

4. If you are not an annual grantee of the Michigan State Bar Foundation, please briefly describe your organization's major achievements:

MiHIA has led several transformative initiatives that link health improvement with economic opportunity across central and eastern Michigan. Notable achievements include the development of the THRIVE framework, which has evolved into Bloom: Thriving Together. This plan aligns regional efforts around key drivers of health and prosperity—such as access to care, workforce development, and social determinants like economic stability. MiHIA has also launched a regional health data dashboard to guide evidence-based decision-making, is working with treatment court judges on developing a long-term recovery housing project, and advanced food security through multi-county collaborations. These efforts directly target barriers to economic wellbeing—such as addiction, unemployment, and lack of access to healthy food—which are recognized as critical factors influencing individual and community health outcomes.

5. List the dates, purposes and outcomes of any prior applications for Michigan State Bar Foundation funds submitted within the last six years. (Date, Title of Project/Purpose, Approved/Denied/Pending)

This is the first time MiHIA is making application to the Michigan State Bar Foundation.

Project Overview

1. Title of project:

Clean Slate Collaborative

2. Amount Requested:

\$ 53,625

3. Anticipated beginning date (mm/dd/yyyy):

12/01/2025

4. Anticipated completion date (mm/dd/yyyy):

11/01/2025

5. In 125 words or less, describe a brief summary of the grant request covering the needs to be addressed, methods, target audience and anticipated outcomes.

In collaboration with the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN), this initiative supports individuals in Michigan seeking expungement of eligible criminal records, with a focus on increasing access to legal aid and second chances. Working through regional partners, we will connect candidates to GLEN's fee-free, full-service legal support, including eligibility screening, document preparation, and court navigation. The goal is to remove barriers to employment, housing, and education, thereby promoting economic mobility and community reintegration. By leveraging regional partnerships and proven legal expertise, the project aims to serve 75 individuals across the MiHIA region, aligning with broader goals of health equity and inclusive economic development.

6. List names/titles and describe the qualifications of key staff members or volunteers responsible for the project.

	Name/Title of Key Staff or Volunteer	Function/Qualifications
1	Josey Scoggin, Executive Director, GLEN	Project Director 15+ years of justice advocacy
2	Blanca Stafford, Director of Intake GLEN	Intake Specialist 4 years in current role
3	Melissa Jekel, Director of Data & Research GLEN	Reporting/Evaluation 5+ years of tracking ROI
4	Heidi Tracy, CEO, MiHIA	Fiscal Agent/Compliance 30+ years nonprofit mgt.

7. Describe how this project furthers the mission of your organization

This project directly advances MiHIA's mission by addressing the intersection of health, equity, and economic opportunity. MiHIA's regional strategy recognizes that economic wellbeing and health are inextricably linked, and that building an inclusive economy is essential to a thriving community.

By partnering with GLEN to support expungement for 75 individuals, MiHIA is:

- Removing systemic barriers to employment, housing, and education.
- Promoting mental and emotional wellbeing through restored dignity and opportunity.
- Leveraging regional partnerships to ensure equitable access to legal support.
- Advancing social equity, which is foundational to MiHIA's vision of a healthy, prosperous region.

This initiative is a tangible step toward MiHIA's goal of creating a community where everyone can thrive, regardless of their past.

8. Describe how this project advances the stated priorities of the Michigan State Bar Foundation

This project directly supports the Michigan State Bar Foundation's commitment to expanding access to civil legal aid for low-income individuals and reducing barriers to justice. By collaborating with the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN), MiHIA will identify and connect 75 eligible individuals with fee-free, full-service expungement support. These services—ranging from eligibility screening to court navigation—address critical legal needs that impact employment, housing, and education. The initiative aligns with the Foundation's Access to Justice Campaign by helping close the justice gap and ensuring fairness for those who cannot afford legal representation. Through regional collaboration and targeted outreach, this project promotes equity, economic mobility, and community reintegration, advancing MSBF's mission to improve lives through civil legal aid.

9. What will happen to this project if the Michigan State Bar Foundation denies the grant request?

If this grant is not awarded, MiHIA will continue to actively seek alternative funding sources that align with our mission and strategic priorities. As a backbone organization, MiHIA is committed to advancing initiatives that promote health equity and inclusive economic development across the region. However, our capacity to implement projects is contingent upon securing financial support for partners whose goals complement our own. We will leverage our regional network to identify new funding opportunities and remain dedicated to supporting expungement efforts through collaboration with GLEN and other stakeholders. While the timeline may be impacted, our commitment to this work will persist.

Needs to be Addressed

1. What are the needs to be addressed?

This project addresses multiple intersecting needs within the MiHIA region. First, there is a significant gap in access to civil legal aid for individuals eligible for criminal record expungement. Many residents lack the financial resources, legal literacy, or support systems necessary to navigate the complex expungement process. This barrier perpetuates cycles of poverty and exclusion.

Second, criminal records often prevent individuals from securing employment, housing, and education—key determinants of health and economic stability. Expungement offers a pathway to opportunity, enabling individuals to rebuild their lives and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

Third, the project responds to the need for regional coordination. As a backbone organization, MiHIA is uniquely positioned to mobilize partners and connect eligible individuals with services, ensuring equitable access and advancing the region's goal of an inclusive economy.

2. What is the target audience?

The primary target audience for this project includes individuals residing within the MiHIA region who are eligible for criminal record expungement, particularly those facing economic hardship and systemic barriers to legal support. These individuals often experience limited access to employment, housing, education, and healthcare due to the lasting impact of a criminal record. Many are unaware of their eligibility or lack the resources to pursue expungement independently.

Additionally, the project targets community-based organizations, employers, and regional partners who can help identify eligible candidates and facilitate connections to legal services. By engaging this broader network, the initiative ensures equitable outreach and maximizes impact across diverse populations, including historically marginalized communities. The project is designed to serve as a regional model for inclusive, collaborative approaches to justice and economic mobility.

3. What outreach will be undertaken to inform the audience of this project?

To ensure broad and equitable access to expungement services across the Great Lakes Bay Region, MiHIA will implement a multi-tiered outreach strategy leveraging its extensive regional network and communications infrastructure.

MiHIA maintains a listserv of over 2,000 members representing more than 400 organizations throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region. This network includes healthcare providers, legal aid organizations, community-based nonprofits, educational institutions, employers, and local government agencies. Through targeted email campaigns, MiHIA will disseminate information about expungement opportunities, eligibility criteria, and event logistics to this diverse audience, encouraging referrals and direct participation.

In addition to digital outreach, MiHIA will collaborate with regional partners—including the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN), treatment courts, workforce development agencies, and social service providers—to identify eligible individuals and promote the initiative through trusted community channels.

This comprehensive outreach approach is designed to maximize impact, ensure equitable access, and build community trust in the expungement process.

4. List the counties in which services will be provided or indicate statewide.

While MiHIA represents a 14-county region, this grant will concentrate primarily in the following counties: Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Midland, Ogemaw, Roscommon and Saginaw.

Project Activities

1. How many people will be served?

75

2. Described any services in this project that will be provided by pro bono attorneys.

While we has not yet formally engaged individual attorneys for pro bono services, the initiative will benefit from the established relationships that the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN) maintains with attorneys across the region. GLEN has a strong track record of collaborating with legal professionals who volunteer their time to support expungement efforts, including providing free legal screenings, application assistance, and court preparation guidance.

These partnerships have been instrumental in past expungement clinics and resource fairs, where attorneys have offered their services at no cost to participants. GLEN is prepared to activate this network for upcoming events, ensuring that individuals seeking expungement have access to qualified legal support regardless of their ability to pay.

As the project develops, we will also explore opportunities to engage additional pro bono attorneys and legal aid organizations to expand capacity and ensure equitable access to justice throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region.

3. Describe any services to be done by other volunteers.

Volunteers will play a key role in activating and supporting the referral network for this initiative. While they will not be providing direct legal services, volunteers will assist in identifying eligible individuals, guiding them through the intake process, and connecting them to appropriate legal resources—including attorneys and organizations affiliated with the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN).

Their responsibilities may include:

Assisting with outreach and community engagement.

Supporting pre-registration and event logistics.

Helping applicants understand the expungement process and available services.

Facilitating referrals to legal professionals who may offer pro bono or reduced-cost support.

By leveraging volunteer support, MiHIA and GLEN aim to expand access to expungement services while maintaining a streamlined and community-centered approach. Volunteers will be trained to ensure consistency, confidentiality, and cultural responsiveness in their interactions with applicants.

4. Describe the timeline for major activities in this project.

October–November 2025: Planning and Coordination

- Finalize partnership roles between MiHIA and the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN).
- Develop outreach materials and referral protocols.
- Identify regional partners and community organizations to assist with candidate identification.
- Begin volunteer recruitment and training, focusing on activating the referral network.

December 2025: Project Launch

- Official start of the Clean Slate Collaborative.
- Launch outreach campaign via MiHIA's listserv (2,000 members across 400+ organizations), social media, and partner networks.
- Begin intake and eligibility screening through GLEN's established process.

January–June 2026: Service Delivery and Community Engagement

- Begin intake, pre-registration, and referrals to legal support.
- Eligible individuals receive fee-free services including document preparation and court navigation.
- Ongoing outreach to employers, housing agencies, and community organizations to promote second-chance opportunities.

July–September 2026: Evaluation and Sustainability Planning

- GLEN's data and research team tracks outcomes and works with MiHIA to calculate return on investment (ROI).
- MiHIA compiles impact data and prepares final reporting for the Michigan State Bar Foundation.
- Explore additional funding sources and partnerships to sustain and expand the initiative beyond the grant period.

5. Describe any technology used to undertake this project.

While the project does not rely on specialized technology platforms, several basic tools will be used to support implementation and ensure efficiency:

- Email and digital communication tools will be used to engage MiHIA's listserv of over 2,000 members and coordinate outreach across more than 400 organizations.
- Online forms will streamline referrals and intake to help identify eligible individuals prior to expungement events.
- Data tracking systems, such as spreadsheets or cloud-based databases, will be used by GLEN's data and research team to monitor progress, track outcomes, and support grant reporting.
- Virtual collaboration tools (e.g., Zoom, shared drives) may be used to coordinate among partners and volunteers across the region.

These tools will help ensure that the project is accessible, organized, and responsive to the needs of participants and stakeholders.

6. Describe supervision for the project.

The Clean Slate Collaborative will be supervised by Josey Scoggin, Executive Director of the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN). Josey will oversee day-to-day operations and ensure that all components of the program—including outreach, intake, legal referrals, and data tracking—are working in concert to meet project goals. With over 15 years of experience in justice advocacy, Josey brings deep expertise in expungement processes and community engagement.

Heidi Tracy, CEO of the Michigan Health Improvement Alliance (MiHIA), will oversee fiscal management and compliance. She and MiHIA's business operations team will ensure that all grant expenditures align with the expectations set forth by the Michigan State Bar Foundation. This includes monitoring budget allocations, maintaining financial records, and supporting reporting requirements.

Together, GLEN and MiHIA will coordinate closely to ensure the project is implemented with integrity, transparency, and impact.

7. If applicable, list up to three materials that will result from this project.

In addition to providing direct support to individuals seeking expungement, this initiative will generate valuable insights into the intersection of restorative justice, health, and economic wellbeing. MiHIA will use the evaluation findings and outcomes collected throughout the project to author articles and papers for publication in professional journals. These publications will explore how restorative justice—particularly expungement—serves as a critical component of public health and a foundational strategy for building an inclusive economy.

By sharing lessons learned and evidence-based practices, MiHIA aims to contribute to broader conversations around equity, justice, and community wellbeing, while positioning the Clean Slate Collaborative as a model for regional collaboration and systemic change.

8. If applicable, how many people will be served? Complete chart below. (Enter numbers without punctuation: 1000 rather than 1,000.00)

Type of legal problem	Cases closed after limited service	Cases closed after extended service	Total projected cases closed
Consumer/finance			
Education			
Employment			
Family			
Juvenile			
Health			
Housing			
Income maintenance			
Individual rights			
Other*	75		75
Total Cases	75.0	0	75.0

Collaboration/Coordination

1. Describe the support this project has from other individuals or organizations in your community.

	Organization/Individual	Describe Support	Upload Letter of Support
1	Great Lake Expungement Network	Lead Implementation Partner	✓
2			✗
3			✗
4			✗
5			✗

2. If other organizations in your area perform services or meet needs in a way similar to those you have proposed, describe how your proposed project avoids duplication with other organizations.

While other organizations in the region may offer expungement-related services, MiHIA's role as a convener and coordinator ensures that this initiative complements rather than duplicates existing efforts. MiHIA operates under a collective impact framework, bringing together diverse stakeholders—including legal aid providers, community organizations, and public agencies—to align strategies and maximize regional impact.

Rather than providing direct legal services, MiHIA leverages its infrastructure and relationships to connect individuals to existing resources, such as those offered by the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN). By activating a referral network and coordinating outreach across more than 400 organizations in its listserv, MiHIA fills a critical gap in regional coordination, ensuring that services are accessible, equitable, and efficiently delivered.

This approach strengthens existing efforts, reduces fragmentation, and builds a unified regional model for restorative justice and inclusive economic development.

3. Describe how you will coordinate activities with other organizations.

MiHIA will coordinate activities through its established regional network and in close partnership with the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN). As a backbone organization, MiHIA regularly convenes multi-sector stakeholders and will leverage this infrastructure to align efforts across community-based organizations, legal aid providers, workforce development agencies, and social service partners.

Coordination will include:

- Regular communication and planning meetings with GLEN and other partners to ensure alignment on outreach, intake, and service delivery.
- Activation of MiHIA's listserv, which includes over 2,000 members from more than 400 organizations, to share updates, promote events, and encourage referrals.
- Volunteer engagement to support intake and facilitate connections between applicants and legal resources.
- Shared data tracking and reporting to monitor progress and inform continuous improvement.

This collaborative approach ensures that all partners are working in concert to expand access to expungement services and advance the region's goals for health equity and inclusive economic development.

4. Have you researched and utilized the information from other similar projects in developing this project? If so, describe.

Yes, this project builds directly on the experience and expertise of the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN), which has successfully led similar expungement initiatives across Michigan. Since 2021, GLEN has completed over 1,300 expungement screenings and submitted more than 800 applications, demonstrating a strong track record of helping individuals navigate the complex legal process of clearing criminal records.

MiHIA has partnered with GLEN to leverage these insights and best practices in designing the Clean Slate Collaborative. GLEN's experience with coalition-led resource fairs, pre-registration systems, and legal referral networks has informed the structure and outreach strategy of this initiative. By building on proven models, MiHIA aims to replicate and expand the impact of prior efforts while tailoring the approach to the unique needs of the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Evaluation of Project

1. List three anticipated outcomes of the project.

1	Improved Economic Opportunity for Participants: Individuals whose records are successfully expunged will experience increased access to employment, housing, and education—key drivers of long-term economic stability and personal wellbeing.
2	Enhanced Mental and Emotional Wellbeing: Participants will benefit from restored dignity, reduced stigma, and greater confidence in re-engaging with their communities, contributing to improved mental health and social reintegration.
3	Documented Impact to Inform Future Policy and Practice: MiHIA will collect and analyze participant outcomes to author articles and papers for professional journals, demonstrating how restorative justice interventions like expungement directly support health equity and inclusive economic development.

2. Describe how you will evaluate the effectiveness of the project and include how you will measure the number of people impacted.

The effectiveness of the Clean Slate Collaborative will be evaluated through a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, led by the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN) in partnership with MiHIA's data and business operations teams.

We will measure impact primarily by tracking the number of individuals who successfully complete the expungement process. This includes:

- Number of individuals screened for eligibility
- Number of applications submitted
- Number of records officially expunged

GLEN's Director of Data & Research will oversee the collection and analysis of these metrics, ensuring accurate reporting and alignment with grant expectations.

In addition to these core metrics, MiHIA will gather participant feedback to assess changes in access to employment, housing, and education, as well as perceived improvements in wellbeing and community reintegration. These insights will inform future program design and contribute to MiHIA's broader strategy of linking restorative justice to health equity and economic inclusion.

All data will be compiled into a final report and used to support articles and publications that share findings with the broader professional community.

3. Describe to whom dissemination of project information or results will be made and how such dissemination will occur.

Project information and results will be disseminated to a broad range of stakeholders across the Great Lakes Bay Region and beyond. MiHIA will share findings with:

- Regional partners and community organizations through its listserv of over 2,000 members representing more than 400 organizations.
- Legal aid and justice advocacy networks, including those affiliated with the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN).
- Public health and economic development professionals, via presentations, webinars, and collaborative forums.
- Academic and professional audiences, through articles and papers authored by MiHIA for publication in journals focused on health equity, restorative justice, and inclusive economic development.

Dissemination will occur through email communications, regional convenings, MiHIA's website and dashboard, and submissions to professional publications. These efforts will ensure that the lessons learned from the Clean Slate Collaborative inform future practice, policy, and investment in restorative justice initiatives.

4. If this project can be replicated, describe the ways you will assist others in the process.

The core expungement model developed by the Great Lakes Expungement Network (GLEN) has already demonstrated success and is being replicated across Michigan. What makes this project unique—and worth replicating—is its integration with public health partners through MiHIA, aligning restorative justice with broader goals of health equity and economic wellbeing.

This initiative also reflects the priorities of the Governor's Clean Slate program, advancing second-chance opportunities through a coordinated, community-based approach. The wide collaboration and collective impact framework—engaging legal aid, public health, volunteers, and regional organizations—makes this a model for inclusive, scalable justice reform.

To support replication, MiHIA will:

- Share outreach materials, intake tools, and referral protocols.
- Provide access to evaluation findings and impact data.
- Author articles and papers for professional journals to highlight the model's effectiveness.
- Offer peer learning opportunities and consultation to organizations interested in adapting the approach.

By documenting and sharing both the process and outcomes, MiHIA aims to help other regions replicate this collaborative model and expand access to restorative justice statewide.

Administration of Justice Grant Financial Information

Completed - Oct 10 2025

Form for "Administration of Justice Grant Financial Information"

1. Describe how the project will be funded after these grant funds are spent.

MiHIA is committed to sustaining the Clean Slate Collaborative beyond the grant period. After these funds are spent, MiHIA will pursue additional funding opportunities through philanthropic foundations, public health grants, and regional economic development initiatives that align with the project's goals.

As a backbone organization, MiHIA has experience securing multi-sector support and will leverage its regional network to identify new funding partners. We will also explore opportunities to integrate expungement services into broader public health and workforce development programs, ensuring long-term sustainability.

Additionally, MiHIA and GLEN will use the evaluation data and documented impact to advocate for continued investment in restorative justice efforts, including support from state-level initiatives such as the Governor's Clean Slate program. These efforts will help ensure that the project remains viable and continues to expand access to expungement services across the region.

2. Describe any matching funds requirements from other sources for this project.

No matching funds are initially being used.

3. Complete the chart below to reflect the project's estimated budget detailed by major line items. Include only what you are requesting for this project under the MSBF funds column. (Enter numbers without punctuation – for example, 1000 rather than \$1,000.00. In addition, you will need to manually total rows, but columns will total)

Category	MSBF Funds	Other Funds	In-kind Support	Total
Personnel - Existing				
Personnel - New				
Employee benefits				
Consultant fees	37500			
Travel				
Space				
Equipment				
Supplies				
Telephone				
Postage	1000			
Printing/copies	500			
Audit				
Other	14625			
Total	53625.0	0	0	0

4. Please describe the personnel costs above, including positions, whether or not it is a new position and projected percentage of time that the staff will spend on this project.

(No response)

5. If you requested funding for consultant fees, space, equipment or other expenses, please describe.

We will compensate GLEN \$500 per full expungement--\$37,500

Other costs include: background checks, fingerprinting, obtaining certified documents, checking eligibility through iChat and indirect costs--\$14,625

A detailed budget is attached in other documents.

6. Please list any funding sources that have changed in the last year, including source of funding and amount.

(No response)

7. List the other anticipated funding sources for this project by name and amount.

	Source	Amount Requested	Amount Committed
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

8. Comments

Please add any comments you wish to provide.

(No response)

Administration of Justice Grant Application Assurances